

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

Amendment to
Policy 15-05, Prescribing Practices Policy and Guidelines

Adopted November 9, 2017

On page 12 of Policy 15-05, “Prescribing Practices Policy and Guidelines,” the Board of Registration in Medicine deletes the sentence, “Physicians should note that they are not permitted to delegate the prescribing of buprenorphine to non-physicians.”

Policy 15-05 was last updated in 2015. Since then, federal law¹ was enacted allowing nurse practitioners and physician assistants with prescriptive authority under state law to prescribe buprenorphine.

Physicians in Massachusetts are permitted to delegate the prescribing of buprenorphine to nurse practitioners or physician assistants with prescriptive authority who have completed appropriate training and who are qualified to prescribe buprenorphine under state and federal law.

¹ The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA). Public Law No: 114-198, Section 303 (07/22/2016).